

McHenry to host workshop on regional planning effort for future

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By NATE LINHART Email
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McHENRY – McHenry County residents can help shape everything from transportation to housing in the area at a workshop Thursday in McHenry.

The city of McHenry, in collaboration with the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning, is hosting a workshop for the new comprehensive regional plan called [On To 2050](#).

The On To 2050 Outreach Workshop will start at 6 p.m. Thursday at the McHenry Municipal Center, 333 S. Green St., McHenry.

The workshop will allow McHenry-area residents to discuss the region's challenges and opportunities with CMAP staff and other members of the public. Its purpose is to move the region toward a better economy and with a higher quality of life for residents.

Those encouraged to attend the event include the general public, elected officials, appointed officials and municipal leaders and staff from neighboring municipalities such as [Bull Valley](#), [Holiday Hills](#), [Johnsburg](#) and [McCullom Lake](#).

"It is crucial elected and appointed officials and general public attend the planning session to present this vision to ensure our collective voices are heard for the long-term betterment of our communities," McHenry Economic Development Director Doug Martin said. "This is an opportunity which will allow communities within McHenry County to express their ideas, what is important to us and values we want to be carried forward on a regional scale."

CMAP – a regional planning organization for seven northeastern Illinois counties including McHenry – is seeking input from stakeholders across the seven-county metropolitan Chicago region to help them develop the area's new comprehensive regional plan.

The comprehensive plan is slated for adoption in October 2018. CMAP is using public engagement to look at five potential alternative futures that involve changed climate, walkabout communities, innovative transportation, constrained resources and a transformed economy.

"And not just in McHenry County," CMAP communications senior Mandy Burrell Booth said. "It's important that every region give their inputs for this plan."

Burrell Booth said feedback can be provided through kiosks, videos, web surveys, a forum series and social media. A kiosk is set up at the McHenry County Administration Building, 667 Ware Road, [Woodstock](#), as another way for McHenry County residents to give their feedback, she said.

To RSVP for Thursday's workshop, contact CMAP Planner Nora Beck at 312-386-8677 or nbeck@cmap.illinois.gov.

Burrell Booth also encourages McHenry County residents to attend a [forum Aug. 15 in Libertyville](#).